

**On a life-saving mission: nurses' willingness to encounter with intimate partner abuse.**

Häggbloom AM, Möller AR. **Qual Health Res** 2006; 16(8): 1075-90.

Correspondence: unavailable

Affiliation: Nordic School of Public Health, Gothenburg, Sweden.

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The main purpose of this qualitative study was to explore in depth selected expert nurses' experiences of the phenomenon of violence against women and the nurses' roles as health care providers to those women. The authors adopted a grounded theory method and produced an emerging theory comprising two key themes: nurses' personal perceptions toward intimate partner violence and nurses' feeling equipped to intervene. The findings showed that violence against women existed in a small local community and raised pitfalls caused by nurses' knowing the inhabitants. Furthermore, the findings indicate the devotion of nurses and the importance of their role in the care of battered women and the sharing of knowledge. Thus, the nurses compensate for a lack of training through personal maturity and security within the social context.  
Language: Eng